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Began as a loose network in 2018, registered as not-for-profit in 2020, we are led by young people of marginalized sexual orientation, gender identity & sex characteristics (queer) folks for queer rights.

Nepal Sambat 1141/05/17 2077/11/21 2021 March 5 Ref. No. supplies 0 0 3 2 / 7 7 / 78

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Public Statement

We will be observing **Queer Womxn Pride Parade** alike every year on International Women's Day. We began this event since 2019. While it was cancelled in 2020 due to COVID-19 pandemic, we will be observing **Third Annual Queer Womxn Pride Parade**. The parade will take place at 7 am in Bwojyakhya / Bhrikutimandap in Yén / Kathmandu and march along the mainstream women rights march.

Our theme for this year is "All women from now". We call the women rights movement to be inclusive of intersex women, transgender women and women of diverse sexual orientations beyond heterosexuality. We also call out that the government has endorsed a legislation regarding 'other gender' which has obliged every trans and intersex person to enlist themselves as 'Others' in the gender marker. Many media houses have introduced this incorrectly practice of using the term 'transgender' in English & 'tesro lingi (third gender)' in Nepali interchangeably. Despite the existence of term 'pāralaingik' in Nepali language to refer transgender people, this mistranslation has resulted in further enabling myths around being transgender. Trans women are women, and want their identity documents to reflect that. Intersex women are women, and want their identity documents to reflect that. Many trans women have filed petition at various government authorities to have their documentations amended in the names that reflect their gender identity. We call upon the government to take immediate action on amending as well as formulating legislation to recognize their gender identity.

Our hashtag for the theme is #AllWomenFromNow. The hashtag for the event is #NepalWomxnPride and year specific hashtag is #NeWoP2021. Please visit our website for further information: https://nepalprideparade.com/queer-womxn-pride-eng/

We have come across some concerns about use of the term 'womxn' with regards to some US based controversy. We'd like to make it clear that, we did not choose the term 'womxn' because the term 'woman' is not inclusive of trans women. We see this as a part of broader language reform movement to claim a language where 'man' does not become the central or by default gender. We see both the terms 'woman' and 'womxn' as semantically interchangeable and assert the same meaning and neither being 'more inclusive' than the other.

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